Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Stroke is the leading cause of serious long-term disability and the third leading cause of death in the United States, killing over 136,000 people nationwide and more than 400 citizens of South Dakota; and,

Whereas, Warning signs of stroke include sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body; sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding; sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes; sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination; and sudden severe headache with no known cause; and,

Whereas, Americans are more aware of the risk factors and warning signs for stroke than in the past, but two to five adults still cannot identify any symptoms; and,

Whereas, The call to action for American Stroke Month 2011, is "Take 2 to Save 2" to encourage people to take two minutes to save two lives by sending two health messages to two people that they know who are overweight, smoke, have high blood pressure, diabetes, or a family history of heart disease or stroke, who are at an increased risk of being disabled or dying from a stroke; and,

Whereas, New and effective treatments have been developed to treat and minimize the severity and damaging effects of strokes, but much more research is needed:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 2011, as

AMERICAN STROKE MONTH

in South Dakota, and I urge all the citizens of our state to familiarize themselves with risk factors associated with stroke, recognize the warning signs and symptoms, and on the first signs of a stroke dial 9-1-1 immediately so that we might begin to reduce the devastating effects of stroke.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-fifth Day of April in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Eleven.

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Jason M. Gant, Secretary of State